



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

August 2, 1996

The Honorable David J. Barram
Acting Administrator
General Services Administration
18th & F Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Mr. Barram:

As you know, the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (ITMRA) will go into effect on August 8, 1996. As part of our ongoing implementation of ITMRA, this letter designates the General Services Administration (GSA) as an executive agent for the continuation of GSA government-wide information technology acquisition programs. In addition, pending the completion of an upcoming interagency review of the government's needs for interagency provision of information technology services, GSA will continue to offer such services on behalf of other agencies.

Section 5112(e) of ITMRA authorizes the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to designate "one or more heads of executive agencies as executive agent for Government-wide acquisitions of information technology." To assure the continuation of existing programs, the GSA Administrator is hereby designated as an executive agent, through September 30, 1998, for the Federal Systems Integration and Management Center (FEDSIM) and Federal Computer Acquisition Center (FEDCAC) programs, as well as for other existing governmentwide information technology acquisition programs. As an executive agent, the GSA Administrator is authorized to enter into and administer contracts for the governmentwide acquisition of information technology, as defined in Section 5002 of ITMRA. Unless otherwise provided by law or directed by the Director of OMB, all contracts shall be non-mandatory and be made available to agencies for voluntary use. The scope of this designation is limited to programs which are funded on a reimbursable basis through the Information Technology Fund established at 40 U.S.C. 757 and which have been, or may be, approved by OMB as part of the annual cost and capital plan for that fund.

As part of the government's implementation of ITMRA and the President's recent Executive Order on "Federal Information Technology" (E.O. 13011), OMB will be working with the agencies to review the government's common information technology activities. One subject that will be addressed is whether additional designations under Section 5112(e) would be appropriate, including whether the designation being made here should be extended or modified.

A related subject concerns how best to assure the appropriate availability of interagency information technology services. We plan to take up this topic with GSA and the agencies through the Chief Information Officers Council established pursuant to Executive Order 13011. We hope that this interagency review of information technology services may begin soon, and be completed by September 30, 1997. Pending completion of the review, GSA will continue to provide the agencies with the governmentwide information technology services that GSA has been providing to them.

Again, we at OMB look forward to working with GSA and the other agencies as the government moves forward in implementing ITMRA and Executive Order 13011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew", with a stylized, cursive flourish extending to the right.

Jacob J. Lew
Acting Director